

**GROWING IN GRACE LETTERS!** – Calling saints in Christ, (in our homes and with one another in Church), to walk in the Steps of Jesus! (1 Peter 2:15-25) Edited by James Bell, a servant of Jesus Christ!

## **10 08 25 V1n22 ISRAEL and THE CHRISTIAN'S DUTY?**

**MODERN ISRAEL continuously faces and presently faces— incredible ATTACKS from 'JEW HATERS' around the world; and especially from various Arab countries.** In the Apostle Paul's day, the Jews were under the heavy-handed rule of the Roman Empire. TODAY, ISRAEL seems to be in the news more than ever; and more than ever— CHRISTIANS NEED A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE!

**WE START with a BIG SURPRISE, neither Jesus nor His Apostles did anything to lessen the cruel domination of the Romans. They DID NOT join hands with the unbelieving Jews in any effort to help them get back in control of the 'Promised Land!' SURPRISE: No one in the New Testament ever quoted from Genesis, or the Psalms to INSTRUCT Christians that they must SUPPORT political battles and/or finance unbelieving Jews! SURPRISE: Neither does the New Testament warn that *who refuse to bless Israel in their unbelief would be under the curse of God; NOR do the Scriptures teach that blessings await those who BLESS Israel while she remains in her sin and rebellion.***

**INSTEAD, the BIBLE focus was and is ON a far more serious problem— the sin and rebellion of both Jews and Gentiles; and the need of both Jews and Gentiles to be saved from their sin! (Rom 1-3) The Apostle Paul's deep burden and heart-cry for Israel was that the Jews needed to be saved from their sin! They needed to receive JESUS CHRIST as their LORD and Saviour! (Romans 2:1-29; 9:1-5; 10:1-3)**

**TRAGIC REALITY:** Most of the Jews of that day despised the focus of Jesus and His Apostles. Nationalistic Jews led the way in the crucifixion of Jesus. They hounded Christians from city to city— even as Saul of Tarsus did before he became a Christian: ***Saul of Tarsus they would have loved. The Apostle Paul they hated and wanted him dead!***

**[1] In Acts 7:1-60 we have the sermon that God gave through His servant Stephen to the first century Jews and it is still needed today!** (The sad reality is that such a message would not be received today any more than it was received then!

**[2] JESUS WEPT** over unbelieving Jews as He knew the SEVERE JUDGEMENT that they were bringing upon themselves in their REJECTION of JESUS. (Luke 13:34-35)

SHOCKING TRUTH— Jesus made it plain to the unbelieving Jews that they were Abraham's physical children; but they were NOT ABRAHAM'S CHILDREN! (John 8:39 .. 8:30-44)

**[3] The Jews would not have liked this from Apostle Paul:** *"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God. (Rom 2:28-29)*

**We move forward 2000+ years and during most of those years the Jews have continued to be under the judgment of God.**

However, without repenting and while still hating Jesus Christ, (by the doings of the League of Nations and later the United Nations), since 1948, millions of Jews are back in the land of Promise. **But there has been and there is no peace and there is continual bloodshed and**

**things are getting worse. INDEED, there is also growing evidence that the modern government of Israel is as vile as her enemies.**

EVEN SO, SADLY, without repenting and while continuing to hate Jesus Christ, the government of modern Israel has managed to get much sympathy, financial support, and political clout from many in the modern Evangelical Church. (**However, that does not equate to God's favor!** God does not lift His judgment to fit the prophetic theories of man.) **Jesus STILL says to Jew and Gentile alike:** "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26)

**For what is a JEW or a whole nation of Jews profited if he, if they should gain all of Palestine and beyond and lose their soul? The Jews remain under the judgment of God because of their unbelief and rebellion... and they will remain so until... "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see Me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord." (Luke 13:34-35)**

Instead of repenting and turning to JESUS CHRIST, **Israel has** — as in the past — **gone down to 'Egypt'**... that is, gone to the world, (gone to the League of Nations, the United Nations, and to American politicians and preachers.) **NOTE: YES, Modern Israel in recent years depends on the USA and Big Time Preachers to help her fight her battles.** However, this is all but the arm of the flesh. NOTE, REMEMBER: God at times allows and/or gives the requests of rebels to those who rebel ... but such ones remain lean in their souls and under the judgment of God; and with the 'quail' rotting in their mouths!

**QUESTION: [1] Do the Jews have a God given right to Palestine? YES!** The land of Palestine was given by God to the physical descendants of Abraham. (Gen. 12:7, 13-14-17- 11 Chron. 20:7; Acts 7:5)

**QUESTION: [2] Do the Jews ALWAYS and at all times have the God given right to occupy Palestine? NO!** There are times in history when GOD has cast out the Jews because of their sin. LONG AGO, GOD WARNED: **"Yet if in spite of this you do not obey me, but act with hostility against me, then I will act with wrathful hostility against you ... I will scatter among the nations and will draw out a sword after you, as your land becomes desolate and your cities become waste."** (Lev. 26, 27, 33) **"When you do that which is evil in the sight of the Lord your God so as to provoke him to anger, I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that you shall surely perish quickly from the land ... You shall not live long on it, but shall be utterly destroyed. And the Lord will scatter you among the nations, where the Lord shall drive you."** (Deut. 4:25-27) **"...If you are not careful to observe all the words of this law ... you shall be torn from the land where you are entering to possess it. Moreover, the Lord will scatter you among all peoples."** (See... Deut. 28:63-68) **WHAT HAPPENED?** In time, Israel and Judah abandoned God and both nations were exiled from Palestine: Israel by the Assyrians in 722 B.C., Judah by the Babylonians in 597 B.C.

**Under Ezra and Nehemiah**, a time of repentance enabled a remnant to return from Babylon and again occupy their land of promise. After the remnant Jews' rejection of and crucifixion of Christ, they also were scattered among the nations in fulfillment of God's ancient decree. **THUS, even as Jesus warned, the Romans expelled and scattered the Jews in 70 A.D. Since that day and until now, the Jews have not**

**repented. HOWEVER, even as with Saul of Tarsus, Jesus continues to save a remnant of Jews!** (Rom 9-10; 11:1-5)

MORE IMPORTANT HISTORY: When God exiled Judah under Nebuchadnezzar in 597 B.C., He allowed various mixed people, later called Samaritans, to occupy Judea. Their occupancy was not conditional on righteousness. It was a part of the consequence of the rebellious Jews not being allowed to occupy the land. **MOREOVER, when God expelled the Jews in 70 A.D.,** He allowed **various peoples eventually known as Palestinians to occupy the land in the place of the Jews.**

**QUESTION: [3] From God's perspective, have the Palestinians ever owned the land? NO!** BUT as did the ancient Samaritans, they became tenants of the land until Israel repents. Israel has not repented; yet by the maneuverings of the nations of the world, modern Israel was formed ... but there is no wonder that there is NO PEACE... for the PRINCE OF PEACE is still rejected. **QUESTION: [4] CHRISTIAN: Instead of being in danger of being under a CURSE FROM GOD for NOT supporting present day Israel in their continued rebellion against God— IS IT WISE to fight against the judgment which God has imposed upon them? NO.**

YES, someday, by the hand of God, Israel will dwell the Promised Land in BELIEF and lawfully, in peace and safety. This will be a God-directed return... *and the issue will not primarily be about land ... but about the SALVATION OF THEIR SOULS: Rom. 11:1-36.*

**REMEMBER:** (Num. 13:25-33; 14:1-45) **God CALLED the ancient Hebrews to occupy Palestine in and by faith. However, when unbelief reigned,** God judged them, ultimately condemning them to

wander and die in the wilderness for 40 years. Only a new generation would be allowed to take root in a land dedicated to obedience.

**YES!** God gave Abraham an everlasting covenant and told Abraham, ***"I will bless them that bless you and curse them that curse you."*** (Gen. 12:3). ***However, this verse applies to*** righteous Abraham and to those descendants who also walk in righteousness.

***CHRISTIAN: We, in 2025, are neither called upon to curse modern JESUS HATING Israel; nor are we called upon to BLESS the current JESUS HATING ISRAEL in their rebellion by supporting their politics. Instead, we can and must bless them with the GOSPEL ... and in prayer, in the manner in which both Jesus and the Apostle Paul prayed! AGAIN: More than once, GOD CAST THE JEWS out of Palestine because of their sin.***

**BEWARE:** When the Old Testament Prophets exposed that reality and called for repentance — the false prophets swayed the masses with their silver tongues, deceived them and even got them to join with them in their hatred and persecution of Jeremiah and other godly prophets. Thousands of years later, not much has changed! TODAY, PREACHERS 'DEMONIZE' ANYONE WHO DARES TO EXPOSE THE WICKEDNESS OF MODERN ISRAEL!

**NO! God has not utterly forsaken Israel. YES! GOD WILL KEEP ALL OF HIS PROMISES! YES! The Epistle to the Romans teaches us that someday a Jewish remnant will repent at Christ's return;** "the Lord shall return to Zion and turn ungodliness from Jacob (Rom. 11:26). **YES!** Out of the dry bones of Jewish unbelief, Christ will raise up a nation of saints (Ezekiel 37); **and for the first time in at least 2,000 years, MANY believing Jews will occupy Palestine with God's blessing.**

HOWEVER, the present Christ-rejecting nation of Israel remains under the judgment of God and desperately needs the gospel. Thus, the Apostle Paul had a great heaviness and continual sorrow in his heart for Jews... because they needed to receive the GOSPEL of Jesus Christ. He knew that in the present dispensation that there is one primary DUTY on the Christians' agenda for the Jews— the saving of a remnant. (Romans 10:9-13; 11:1-5) And in a future day, there will be wide-spread salvation as the judgment of blindness is lifted: Romans 11:22-29. **BOTTOM LINE: IN THIS PRESENT HOUR, would you or I like to truly bless the Jews of modern Israel, the Jews of our day? We should!** And, again, that great CONVERTED JEW, the Apostle Paul shows us how: **Romans 9:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, <sup>2</sup>That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. <sup>3</sup>**For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh:** <sup>4</sup>**Who are Israelites;** to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; <sup>5</sup>Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen. <sup>6</sup>Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. **For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel.** **Romans 10:1-13:** <sup>1</sup> Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. [Not from the Romans, not from Islamics, not from IRAN, etc. – but from the holy WRATH OF ALMIGHTY GOD!]

<sup>2</sup> For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. <sup>3</sup> For they **[including the JEWS in modern Israel]** being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

**The great need of the JEWS IS not land;** it is not security from human Jew haters. *Their great need is for them to be saved from their sin, FROM THE WRATH OF GOD, and to embrace JESUS CHRIST as their LORD and Saviour— only then will HE defeat their enemies ... AS IT IS ... by their own rebellion, they place themselves under the continuing JUDGMENT OF GOD. Just as in years past, God raised up the cruel Chaldeans and the Assyrians as the rod of His anger to judge Israel ... and in 70AD He brought the armies of Rome who utterly destroyed and scattered Israel. Even so today, God uses Israel's cruel and pagan neighbors to bring pressure upon Israel; but Israel HARDENS HER HEART.*

**Therefore, it is nothing short of tragic that a growing number of Evangelicals DO not cry out with the Apostle Paul that the Jews might be saved! They do not cry out with Jeremiah, 'REPENT!'** SADLY, big Radio/TV preachers are fond of giving open warnings that unless one agrees their agenda and the agenda of present-day Christ-deny Israelites that SUCH ONES ARE in danger of being cursed by God. **THESE ARE FALSE PROPHETS!**

**INSTEAD, LET US embrace the powerful example of JESUS and every New Testament writer! Let one and all HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD: Romans 10:10-13— “for with the heart man believeth**

unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. <sup>12</sup> **For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.** <sup>13</sup> **For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."**

**BOTTOM LINE: The duty we have toward modern Israel is that which is clearly set forth in the New Testament— Jew and Gentile need the Gospel!** The mandate of the Church of our LORD JESUS CHRIST is the GOSPEL and not the passing, changing politics of man! **DO NOT CURSE ISRAEL! BUT ALSO: THE BLESSING THAT THEY NEED IS NOT for us to PRAY AGAINST HER ENEMIES; BUT THAT ISRAEL WOULD REPENT!** [1] Isaiah 10:5-6 – "O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets." [2] **Hab. 1-11... (verse 6)-- "For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans,** that bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwelling places that are not their's."

**CHRISTIAN:** The whole world is a mission field, and in every nation there are BROTHERS and SISTERS in Christ... and more to come. **WE ARE NOT TO CALL DOWN EVIL and/hate ARAB or JEW! WE ARE TO PRAY, AND TO LIVE OUT, AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL— FOR GOD'S AGENDA IS THE SAVING OF THE LOST FROM EVERY NATION and TRIBE!**

**[3] Genesis 12:2-3... AGAIN, MANY ARE QUOTING Genesis 12:2-3, and other verses IN SUPPORT of Modern Israel; and against her vile enemies.** HOWEVER, GOD HAS A HISTORY OF USING THE WICKED PAGANS AS THE 'ROD OF HIS ANGER' against sin laden Israel. Modern Israel is a nation in rebellion against God and is still under the judgement of God. **IT IS FOOLISH to think that we can BLESS ISRAEL by railing against her attacking enemies, when such enemies are but the latest expression of God's INDIGNATION!**

Grace to all in Christ! James Bell [jwillie123@aol.com](mailto:jwillie123@aol.com)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **Sunday Services, OCTOBER 12**

**Sunday School @ 9:30am; classes all ages**

**WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10:45am**

### **SPECIAL MEETINGS:**

**October 19**, at the end of the Morning Worship service—THE CHIEF WORSHIP SERVICE OF THE CHURCH: **THE LORD'S SUPPER!!**

**October 26**, Monthly EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

**EVERY SATURDAY @ 8:00am— Men's Bible Study** (Doors open by 7:30am— Enjoy Coffee / Juice / Donuts / Hardee's Biscuits!) STUDY starts @ 8:00am— **10/11/25**, Continuing in Romans 1

**NEXT Ladies Bible Study—** October 14 @ 11:00am

(LESSONS from JOB) – (Downstairs, BIG Bible Study room)

**EVERY TUESDAY @ 10:00am – 10:30am LADIES PRAYER MEETING** (Back door, first room on right)

**TUESDAY EVENING**, Teens, Young Adults— Bible Study, 'EXODUS!' ... 7:15pm @ Jaden & Rhi's home

WEDNESDAYS, 6:30pm— (Come in back double doors; **ADULT  
MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**  
YOUNG FAMILIES— Study & Prayer Service

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**LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD (by MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING)  
For Church Ministry and/or MISSIONS:**

**SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO:  
Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066 / OR... *TO  
GIVE* via ONLINE GIVING:**

**<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>**